



06-13-06

# RCO  
DFC

Date: June 9, 2006, Paper No. EV790042561US. I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Kim Blum  
Name (Print)

*Kim Blum*  
Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Michaluk	)	Examiner: Lois L. Zheng
	)	
Application Number: 10/042,549	)	Group Art Unit: 1742
	)	
Filed: January 9, 2002	)	Confirmation No.: 5470
	)	
Docket No.: CPM00029CIP (3600-328-01)	)	

For: TANTALUM AND NIOBIUM BILLETS AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THE SAME

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 9, 2006

Sir:

This Amendment is submitted with the accompanying Request for Continued Examination. A Petition for a Two-month Extension of Time and the requisite fees are being submitted herewith, thus making this submission of the Request for Continued Examination with an Amendment proper and timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin at page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin at page 12 of this paper.